## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 L-03 CTME-00 PA-01 (072 W

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R 081708Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7138 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS AMEMBASSY LISBON USMISSION GENEVA AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, PO
SUBJ: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JUNE 6, 1978:
EC-PORTUGAL TEXTILES AGREEMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 10770

1. DURING THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION OF EC INDUSTRIAL POLICY AT THE JUNE 6 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL (SEPTEL), UK TRADE SECRETARY DELL RAISED UK CONCERN OVER PENETRATION OF BRITISH TEXTILES MARKET BY IMPORTS FROM THE MEDITER-RANEAN, PARTICULARLY GREECE AND PORTUGAL. ACCORDING TO HIS SPOKESMAN, DELL SPECIFICALLY COMPLAINED THAT THE AD REFERENDUM AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EC COMMISSION AND PORTUGAL (REFTEL) DOES NOT CONFORM TO THE TERMS OF THE COMMISSION'S NEGOTIATING MANDATE, AS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL LAST DECEMBER. ACCORDING TO A COUNCIL SECRETARIAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPOKESMAN, THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE DURING THE COUNCIL MEETING.

2. IN REMARKS TO THE PRESS AFTER THE MEETING, UK MINISTER OF STATE JUDD EMPHASIZED THAT HMG IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED OVER A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE IN THE PORTUGUESE CASE, SINCE THE COMMISSION INITIALLED AN AGREEMENT EVEN THOUGH

FULLY AWARE THAT THE TERMS OF THE MANDATE FROM THE COUNCIL HAD BEEN EXCEEDED. A UK DEL SOURCE ADDS THAT HMG HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO STICK TO THIS OPPOSITION IN PRINCIPLE OR TO MOVE TOWARD A COMPROMISE OUTCOME AS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: TEXTILES, TRADE AGREEMENTS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS

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